

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The ink jet printer of claim 1,~~ An ink jet printer comprising:
(a) a jetting head having a jetting plane on which a jetting port for jetting liquid to be
jetted is provided;

(b) a cleaning wiper having a blade for rubbing the jetting plane of the jetting head to
remove jetted liquid sticking to the jetting plane; and

(c) a controller for warning a user of deterioration of the cleaning wiper for the jetting
plane,

wherein a backward dynamic contact angle of the present time is estimated based on
the number of times of conducted maintenance operations by reference to data with respect to
the number of times of maintenance operations versus backward dynamic contact angles
which have been obtained through measurement in advance, and the controller warns the user
of the time of replacement for the cleaning wiper when the backward dynamic contact angle
comes to a prescribed value or lower.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The ink jet printer of claim 1,~~ An ink jet printer comprising:
(a) a jetting head having a jetting plane on which a jetting port for jetting liquid to be
jetted is provided;

(b) a cleaning wiper having a blade for rubbing the jetting plane of the jetting head to
remove jetted liquid sticking to the jetting plane; and

(c) a controller for warning a user of deterioration of the cleaning wiper for the jetting
plane,

wherein an approximate expression of table data with respect to surface roughness
versus number of times of maintenance operations of the blade is prepared, and

wherein the controller warns the user of the time of replacement for the cleaning wiper
by informing the user of an existing surface roughness or an amount of abrasion of the blade
used in the cleaning wiper, based on the number of times of the maintenance operations, by
using the approximate expression.

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4. (Currently Amended) ~~The ink jet printer of claim 1.~~ An ink jet printer comprising:
(a) a jetting head having a jetting plane on which a jetting port for jetting liquid to be
jetted is provided;

(b) a cleaning wiper having a blade for rubbing the jetting plane of the jetting head to
remove jetted liquid sticking to the jetting plane; and

(c) a controller for warning a user of deterioration of the cleaning wiper for the jetting
plane.

further comprising a measuring device for measuring a backward dynamic contact angle of a contact portion at the cleaning wiper that comes in contact with the liquid jetting plane, wherein the controller warns in a prescribed output form when the controller judges that the backward dynamic contact angle of the contact portion measured by the measuring device is greater than the backward dynamic contact angle for judgment established in advance.

5. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 2, wherein the backward dynamic contact angle formed between the cleaning wiper and jetted liquid is 50.5° or more.

6. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 3, wherein a surface roughness (Ra) of the blade is 9 µm or less.

7. (Original) The ink jet printer of claim 4, wherein the backward dynamic contact angle formed between the cleaning wiper and jetted liquid is 50.5° or more.

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